

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-21 and add new claim 23 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A stent, comprising:
a structural support comprising an outer surface that is roughened or patterned and having a first unexpanded configuration and a second expanded configuration; ~~and~~
a polymeric film or sheet or tube that overlays the structural support, the polymeric film or sheet or tube having a first end and a second end, the first end attached to the structural support and wrapped around the structural support such that a first layer and second layer are formed, the second layer overlapping the first end when the structural support is in the unexpanded configuration, ~~and wherein;~~
the first layer of the polymeric film or sheet or tube is retained to the structural support entirely by friction between the roughened or patterned outer surface and the polymeric film or sheet or tube without the use of adhesive or chemical bonding;
and
the polymeric film or sheet or tube fills in gaps in the roughened or patterned outer surface such that the exterior surface of the stent is smooth.
2. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the roughened or patterned outer surface comprises raised triangles.
3. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the roughened or patterned outer surface comprises spikes.
4. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the roughened or patterned outer surface comprises raised squares.

5. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the outer surface is covered with one or more of raised triangles, spikes, and raised squares.

6. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the outer surface is at least partially covered with one or more of raised triangles, spikes and raised squares.

7. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the outer surface is covered at ends of the structural support with one or more of raised triangles, spikes and raised squares.

8. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the polymeric film comprises one or more of ethylene vinyl acetate, latexes, urethanes, polytetrafluoroethylene, polysiloxanes, and modified styrene-ethylene/butylene styrene block copolymers.

9. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the polymeric film comprises one or more drugs.

10. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the polymeric film defines apertures.

11. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the polymeric film is an expandable sleeve.

12. (Currently amended) A system for retaining a polymeric film or sheet or tube having a first end and a second end on a stent, comprising:

a roughened or a patterned outer surface on the stent wherein the first end of the polymeric film or sheet or tube is retained to the stent entirely by friction between the roughened or patterned outer surface and the polymeric film or sheet or tube without the use of adhesive or chemical bonding; and

the polymeric film or sheet or tube is wrapped around the stent such that a first layer and second layer are formed, the second layer overlapping the first end and the film or sheet or tube filling in gaps in the stent such that the exterior of the stent is smooth.

13. (Currently Amended) The retaining system of claim 12, wherein the roughened or patterned surface comprises one or more of raised squares or triangles or spikes.

14. (Currently Amended) The retaining system of claim 13, wherein the squares or triangles or spikes are raised from about 0.001 inch to 0.005 inch.

15. (Currently amended) A method for adhering a polymeric sheet or tube to a stent structural member, comprising:

providing a stent structural member with an outer surface;

providing a polymeric sheet or tube having a first end and a second end;

roughening or patterning the outer surface of the stent structural member with a raised textured design; and

retaining the first end of the polymeric sheet or tube on the stent structural member with entirely by friction between the roughened or patterned outer surface and the polymeric sheet or tube without the use of adhesive or chemical bonding; and

wrapping the polymeric sheet or tube around the structural member such that a first layer and second layer are formed, the second layer overlapping the first end

and the polymeric sheet or tube fills gaps in the roughened or patterned outer surface to form a smooth exterior surface.

16. (Currently amended) A stent assembly, comprising:
a structural member with an outer surface that is roughened or ~~texturized~~ textured and having a first unexpanded configuration and a second expanded configuration; and
a polymeric sleeve wherein the polymeric sleeve has a first end and a second end, the first end retained to the structural member entirely by friction between the roughened or ~~texturized~~ textured surface[[,]] and the polymeric sleeve without the use of adhesive or chemical bonding; and
the polymeric sleeve wrapped around the structural member such that a first layer and second layer are formed, the second layer overlapping the first end when the structural member is in the unexpanded configuration.

17. (Currently Amended) The stent assembly of claim 16, wherein the structural member and polymeric sleeve are expandable.

18. (Currently Amended) The stent assembly of claim 16, wherein the polymeric sleeve contains drugs.

19. (Currently amended) A stent assembly, comprising:
a structural member with an outer surface that is roughened or textured and having a first unexpanded configuration and a second expanded configuration; and
a polymeric sheet wherein the polymeric sheet has a first end and a second end, the first end retained to the structural member entirely by friction between the roughened or textured surface[[,]] and the polymeric sheet without the use of adhesive or chemical bonding; and

the polymeric sheet wrapped around the structural member such that a first layer and second layer are formed, the second layer overlapping the first end when the structural member is in the unexpanded configuration.

20. (Currently Amended) The stent assembly of claim 19, wherein the structural member and the polymeric sheet are expandable.

21. (Currently Amended) The stent assembly of claim 19, wherein the polymeric sheet contains drugs.

22. (Previously presented) A stent, comprising:
a structural support having an outer surface that includes a pattern of raised squares; and
a polymeric film or sheet or tube that overlays the structural support wherein the polymeric film or sheet or tube is retained to the structural support by the raised squares.

23. (New) A stent, comprising:
a structural support having a first unexpanded configuration and a second expanded configuration and an outer surface that is roughened or patterned and at least partially covered with one or more of raised triangles, spikes and raised squares;
a polymeric film or sheet or tube that overlays the structural support, the polymeric film or sheet or tube having a first end and a second end, the first end attached to the structural support and wrapped around the structural support such that a first layer and second layer are formed, the second layer overlapping the first end when the structural support is in the unexpanded configuration; and
wherein the polymeric film or sheet or tube is retained to the structural support by the roughened or patterned outer surface and fills in gaps in the outer surface such that the exterior of the stent is smooth.